

# UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

## Board of the Faculty of Classics

### Programme Specifications for the MSt and MPhil Degrees in Greek and/or Latin Language and Literature

1.	Awarding institution/body	University of Oxford
2.	Teaching institution	University of Oxford
3.	Programme accredited by	Not applicable
4.	Final award	Master of Studies
5.	Programme	Greek and/or Latin Language and Literature
6.	UCAS code	Not applicable
7.	Relevant subject benchmark statement	See <a href="http://www.qaa.ac.uk/academicinfrastructure/benchmark/statements/Classics.pdf">http://www.qaa.ac.uk/academicinfrastructure/benchmark/statements/Classics.pdf</a> for honours statement.
8.	Date of programme specification	June 2008

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4.	Final award	Master of Philosophy
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***The general aims of Oxford taught courses in Classics are :***

To provide, within the supportive, stimulating and diverse environment of the collegiate university, education of excellent quality;

To attract highly able students to come to study Classics and associated subjects at Oxford at an appropriate level, through a range of courses which offer admission to suitably talented and committed candidates from a wide range of backgrounds;

To build and encourage intellectual confidence and learning capacity in students, enabling them to work independently under expert guidance;

To offer students sustained, carefully designed courses with clear progression between stages, which require independent effort and rigour from them and which yield intellectual reward and satisfaction;

To produce graduates who are able to deal with challenging intellectual problems systematically, analytically, and efficiently, and who are suitable for a wide range of demanding occupations and professions;

To produce graduates, especially at post-graduate level, who will go on to promote the national and international well-being of Classics and associated subjects through teaching those subjects in schools or going on to further research and university teaching in those subjects.

***All Oxford taught courses in Classics seek to achieve the following learning outcomes for students by the end of their courses :***

1. To have achieved a successful knowledge and understanding of some core areas and some of a wide range of options in challenging fields of learning within the Graeco-Roman world, through intense independent study under expert guidance;
2. Where relevant, to have acquired the ability to read accurately and critically texts and documents in Latin and/or Greek ;
3. To have acquired the skills effectively to assess considerable amounts of material of diverse types, and to select, summarise and evaluate key aspects;
4. To have acquired the skill of clear and effective communication in written and oral discourse, and the organisational talent needed to plan work and meet demanding deadlines;
5. To have progressed successfully with the support of a teaching environment in which the key features are close and regular personal attention to individual students, constructive criticism and evaluation of their work, and continuous monitoring of their academic achievement;
6. To have made effective and successful use in their courses of study of some of the very wide range of research expertise in our faculty and (where appropriate) of the excellent specialist resources and collections available in the University.

*Individual Masters' courses have the following further objectives for students :*

**MSt in Greek and/or Latin Languages and Literature (one year)**

7. To have followed a coherent and self-standing programme which takes the student to a one-year Master's level in Classics, and to have acquired a range of research skills sufficient to progress to the completion of a doctoral thesis in three years. In particular, those completing this course will have :
  - (a) acquired a broad understanding of major areas in Classical literature;
  - (b) acquired a specific understanding of some particular specialised topics;
  - (c) participated in and gained academically from one year of the wide range of additional intellectual activities provided by the environment of a major postgraduate teaching university;
  - (d) acquired a wide-ranging critical knowledge and understanding of the scholarly literature relevant to the course;
  - (e) developed high-quality research skills and deployed them in assessed individual research, in submitted essays and in a 10,000-word dissertation.

**MPhil in Greek and/or Latin Languages and Literature (two years)**

8. To have followed a coherent and self-standing programme which takes the student to a two-year Master's level in Classics, and to have acquired a range of research skills sufficient and to have acquired a range of research skills sufficient to progress to the completion of a doctoral thesis in two years. In particular, those completing this course will have :
  - (a) acquired a broad understanding of major areas in Classical literature;
  - (b) acquired a specific understanding of some particular specialised topics;
  - (c) participated in and gained academically from two years of the wide range of additional intellectual activities provided by the environment of a major postgraduate teaching university;
  - (d) acquired a wide-ranging critical knowledge and understanding of the scholarly literature relevant to the course;
  - (e) developed high-quality research skills and deployed them in assessed individual research, either in submitted essays or in a 25,000-word dissertation.

This is a summary version. Much more detail can be found in the extensive course handbook for students on these courses.